

New law creates the Central La. Technical Community College as a multi-campus, public institution of postsecondary education under the supervision and management of the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges (LCTCS Bd. of Supervisors), subject to the appropriate approval of and oversight by the Bd. of Regents. Specifies that the creation is effective July 1, 2012, or at the appropriate time thereafter as determined by formal action taken by the LCTCS board.

Provides that the Central La. Technical Community College:

- (1) Shall provide a comprehensive educational program which may include career and technical education and training, workforce development training, adult basic education, continuing education, general education, associate degree programs, college transfer degree programs, and other educational programs and opportunities.
- (2) May grant certificates, diplomas, associate degrees, and associate transfer degrees as authorized by the LCTCS Bd. of Supervisors and the appropriate regional accrediting body as recognized by the U.S. Dept. of Education.
- (3) Shall provide educational programs and services through the Alexandria, Avoyelles, Huey P. Long, Lamar Salter, Oakdale, and Shelby M. Jackson campuses of the La. Technical College, and any other postsecondary campus or institution which may become a part of the Central La. Technical Community College or its primary service delivery area.

Requires the LCTCS Bd. of Supervisors and the Bd. of Regents to work closely with the Central La. Technical Community College and the appropriate accrediting body to ensure that the institution and all program offerings are fully accredited.

Provides that appropriations for the technical community college for FY 2012-2013 and for each subsequent fiscal year until the college earns regional accreditation shall not be less than the appropriation for the Alexandria, Avoyelles, Huey P. Long, Lamar Salter, Oakdale, and Shelby M. Jackson campuses of the La. Technical College available on July 1, 2011.

New law provides that all GRAD Act performance agreements currently in effect between the Alexandria, Avoyelles, Huey P. Long, Lamar Salter, Oakdale, and Shelby M. Jackson campuses of the La. Technical College and the Bd. of Regents shall remain in effect until such time as the Central La. Technical Community College and the Bd. of Regents enter into a performance agreement and such is certified by the LCTCS Bd. of Supervisors.

Requires the LCTCS Bd. of Supervisors to submit a written report to the senate and house education committees relative to the status of the Central La. Technical Community College, not later than January 1, 2013.

Effective upon signature of governor (June 12, 2012).

(Amends R.S. 17:3217.1(A); adds R.S. 17:3232)